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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/620,228	07/15/2003	Mark M. Data	A3-143 US	8510

23683 7590 12/18/2003

MOLEX INCORPORATED
2222 WELLINGTON COURT
LISLE, IL 60532

EXAMINER

FIGUEROA, FELIX O

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2833

DATE MAILED: 12/18/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/620,228	DATA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Felix O. Figueroa	2833	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 July 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 20030715. 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

In Figure 1, sectional label "10" (top) should be in from of the arrow of the sectional line in order to avoid confusion.

Figure 3 does not appear to be taken in the direction shown by sectional line in Fig. 2. The ends of sectional line should be pointing in the direction in which the view is seen.

Specification

Applicant is reminded of the proper format for an abstract of the disclosure. The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited.

Claim Objections

Claims 1, 3, 4, 8, 12, 15, 17 and 26 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 1 line 1, "the type" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 3 line 2, "the direction" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 4 line 2, it is suggested that "an" be changed to --a second--.

In claim 8, "the legs" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 12 line 2, "the direction" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 15 line 1, "the type" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 17 line 2, it is suggested that "an" be changed to --a second--.

In claim 26 line 2, "the direction" lacks antecedent basis.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-11, 14-25 and 28-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chaillot et al. (US 5,989,078)

Chaillot discloses a female terminal for receiving and mating with a male terminal comprising: a terminal body (10) with a mating end (11) and a circuit connecting end (14); a terminal receiving passageway defined in the mating end including two spaced apart sidewalls (26) extending lengthwise along the passageway, the sidewalls arranged to resiliently flex away from each other as the male terminal is inserted into the male terminal; at least one inwardly projecting primary contact (27) disposed along one of the sidewalls for engaging the at least one flat surface of the male terminal when the male terminal is inserted into the terminal receiving passageway; and at least one inwardly projecting arc discharging contact (46) disposed along one of the sidewalls forwardly of the primary contact in the terminal receiving passageway such that the male terminal comes into contact with the arc discharging contact before coming into

contact with the primary contact as the male terminal is inserted into the terminal receiving passageway.

Regarding claims 2, Chaillot discloses an inwardly projecting primary contact being disposed on each of the two spaced apart sidewalls, and an inwardly projecting arc discharge contact being disposed on each of the two spaced apart sidewalls.

Regarding claim 3, Chaillot discloses the at least one arc discharge contact being elongated, with the direction of elongation generally parallel to the longitudinal direction of the passageway.

Regarding claims 10 and 11, please note that the female terminal of Chaillot is capable of rotating / flexing away from each other.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which the subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 12, 13, 26 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chaillot in view of Ito et al. (US 5,630,738).

Chaillot discloses substantially the claimed invention except for the flat surface on the primary contact. Ito teaches a primary contact (21) with a flat, elongated contacting surface (20) to provide a stable contact with the mating terminal. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

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invention was made to provide the primary contact of Chaillot with a flat, elongated contacting surface, as taught by Ito, to provide a stable contact with the mating terminal.

Conclusion


The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Bruchmann et al. (US 4,734,041), Henricus op ten Berg (US 5,554,056) and Sasaki et al. (US 4,795,379) disclose female terminal contacts with primary and second contacts.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Felix O. Figueroa whose telephone number is (703) 308-0097. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri., 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula Bradley can be reached on (703) 308-2319. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.

ffr



RENEE LUCERE
PRIMARY EXAMINER